

REMARK

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. All previously pending claims are cancelled. Claim 23-49 are new and are now presented for examination. New Claims 23-29 cast the invention in terms of a graphical user interface (GUI) such as that of Figure 4 and are based on canceled claims 1-7. New Claims 32-39 are based on canceled claims 1-9, where canceled Claims 5 and 6 are consolidated into new Claim 36 and canceled Claims 7 and 8 are consolidated into new Claim 37. New Claims 40-46 correspond to canceled Claims 10-14, 17 and 18. New Claims 47-49 are Beauregard style claims based on Claims 32, 33 and 35. These claims are not believed to raise any new issues for search or examination as they are all based on the originally filed claims.

U.S.C. §103(a) Rejections

Claims 1-8, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Costa et al. (U.S. 5,887,067), in view of Casey et al. (U.S. 6,182,103). The Examiner acknowledges that Costa does not show a GUI. Applicants respectfully submit that there is also no suggestion and no motivation to provide a GUI in Costa. Casey shows a GUI in Figures 4-9 that appears to be used in managing a number of data processing engines called central processing complexes or CPC's. The Examiner suggests that Casey's "system teaches multiple display screens which reads on a first and second display portion." While the first and second display portions of Claim 23 may read on a system with separate screens, Claim 23 further describes the first and second

display portions. There is nothing in Casey to suggest these further limitations of Claim 23.

The first display portion, as recited in Claim 23, has "a plurality of control boxes each to control a corresponding one or more of a plurality of tracks of each of a plurality of audio processing modules." The Examiner suggests that it would have been obvious to provide a first display portion for the purpose of enabling a recording expert to selectively control the various audio processors. There is nothing in the references to support this assertion and, in the prior art known to Applicants, each audio processing module has its own separate control panel. Casey shows a single "object area" in each of Figures 4-9 that displays information only about one CPC, not a plurality of control boxes to control parts of a plurality of CPC's. Even ignoring the significant differences between Casey's CPC's and the tracks of the audio processing modules of the present invention, Casey falls far short of suggesting the first display portion of Claim 23.

Regarding the plurality of control boxes recited in Claim 23, the Examiner takes Official Notice "of the fact that such control boxes were well known in the art." Applicants are unaware of such knowledge in the art and do not find it in any of the art of record. If the Office persists in this rejection, it is respectfully requested that a reference be provided to support this Official Notice.

The second display portion, as recited in Claim 23, has "a central control mechanism for substantially simultaneously controlling all of the plurality of tracks of each of the plurality of audio processing modules." Applicants are unable to find any suggestion in Casey even that the CPC's are all controlled together using a central control mechanism. Applicants are also unable to find any specific reasoning from the Examiner

as to how this limitation is shown or suggested in the prior art of record. Accordingly, this second display portion is neither taught nor suggested by the art of record.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 23, as well as Claims 24-31 which depend therefrom are allowable over the art of record and respectfully request that these claims be passed to issuance. In addition independent Claims 32, 40 and 47 contain similar recitations and are believed to be allowable for the reasons discussed above as well as for any other limitations specifically set forth therein. The remaining claims depend from one of Claims 32, 40 and 47 and are believed also to be allowable due to this dependency and for the limitations specifically set forth, respectively, in each claim.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the Amendment and Remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Charge our Deposit Account

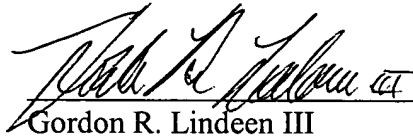
Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date:

10/18/11



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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made
Insertions are underlined, deletions are stricken.

1-22. (Cancelled)

23-49. (New)